

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 IOE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAM-01

AID-05 ARA-06 NEA-10 /098 W
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FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6990

AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 1707

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNGA, KS, TP

SUBJ: KOREAN QUESTION - SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE

REF: USUN 5261

SUMMARY: GSTP COUNCIL OF MINISTERS HAS INSTRUCTED UN REP TO SUPPORT HOSTILE RESOLUTION. PRIMIN TROVOADA, WHO PERSONALLY SUPPORTS ROK POSITION, WILL ENDEAVOR KEEP GSTP REP AWAY FROM UNGA UNTIL AFTER CRUCIAL VOTES, BUT NOT SANGUINE HIS TACTIC WILL SUCCEED. END SUMMARY.

1. ROK UN DELEGATE (AND AMBASSADOR TO GABON AND GSTP) KIM MADE FLYING VISIT TO SAO TOME FROM NEW YORK OCTOBER 22-23 TO LOBBY GSTP ON KOREAN QUESTION. ACCORDING ROK CHARGE HERE, KIM'S RECEPTION IN SAO TOME WAS VERY COLD, AND HE WAS ONLY ABLE TO SEE PRIMIN TROVOADA AND TO SPEAK BRIEFLY WITH PRESIDENT DA COSTA AND MIN HEALTH DA GRACA.

2. TROVOADA TOLD KIM THAT FOLLOWING RECEPTION OF DIPLOMATIC NOTES FROM BOTH KOREAS ABOUT TEN DAYS AGO, GSTP COUNCIL OF
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PRESIDENT AND NINE MINISTERS MET AND CONSIDERED KOREAN

QUESTION. MAJORITY OF MINISTERS SUPPORTED NORTH KOREAN POSITION. THEREFORE, COUNCIL DECIDED TO LET ORIGINAL INSTRUCTIONS STAND TO UN REP. AMORIN TO VOTE WITH MAJORITY OF GROUP OF MOZAMBIQUE, CAPE VERDE AND GUINEA-BISSAU. KIM FEELS SURE OF SUPPORT OF PRIMIN TROVOADA AND MIN HEALTH DA GRACA AND BELIEVES PRESIDENT DA COSTA ALSO FAVORS ROK, BUT SEES OTHER SEVEN MINISTERS AS NEUTRAL OR SUPPORTING NORTH KOREA.

3. TROVOADA ALSO TOLD KIM THAT, ACTING OUT OF PERSONAL FRIENDSHIP, HE HAD ARRANGED FOR GSTP'S UN REP AMORIN TO PRESENT CREDENTIALS TO GOP IN LISBON OCT 20 TO AVOID HER VOTING AGAINST ROK'S POSITION. KIM ASKED TROVOADA TO KEEP AMORIN OUT OF NEW YORK UNTIL NOV 15; TROVOADA SAID HE WOULD DO HIS BEST, BUT NOT SURE THIS POSSIBLE.

4. AS IRONIC NOTE, NORTH KOREAN DELEGATION WAS WAITING AT LIBREVILLE AIRPORT WHEN KIM RETURNED FROM SAO TOME TO TAKE SAME CHARTER PLANE BACK TO STP. ACCORDING TO ROK CHARGE, NORTH KOREANS HAD ALREADY MADE TWO EARLIER TRIPS TO SAO TOME IN OCT.

5. COMMENT: EARLIER INDICATIONS OF SPLIT IN GSTP NOW APPEAR CONFIRMED OVER KOREAN RESOLUTION, UNFORTUNATELY, TO OUR DISADVANTAGE. FRENCH AMBASSADOR, WHO DISCUSSED KOREAN QUESTION WITH GSTP LAST WEEK, FOUND SAME SITUATION AS REPORTED BY ROK REPS, AND AGREES BEST WE CAN HOPE FOR ON THIS ISSUE IS ABSENCE FROM VOTE OF AMORIN. STEIGMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TERRITORIAL REVERSION, UNGA RESOLUTIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: buchantr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LIBREV01707
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750370-0482
From: LIBREVILLE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751020/aaaaarxr.tel
Line Count: 87
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchantr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 JUN 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <21 OCT 2003 by buchantr>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KOREAN QUESTION - SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE
TAGS: PFOR, KS, TP, KN, UNGA, (TROVOADA, MIGUEL)
To: USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006